

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 1, insert the following heading:

TITLE OF THE INVENTION:

Page 1, before the paragraph beginning on line 4, insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 3, before the paragraph beginning on line 4, insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 11 in its entirety.

Page 9, after the paragraph beginning on line 11, insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING:

The single figure is a schematic representation of the inventive method.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION:

The single figure shows a schematic representation of the inventive method. A metal strip 1 passes from left to right in the drawing. A stationary measuring device 3.1 obtains a measured value of a microstructural property 2 of the metal 1. The property can, for example be microstructural grain size. The stationary measurement 3.1 can be by x-ray, ultrasonic wave, rolling force, temperature or other non-destructive methods. A movable measurement 3.2 also obtains a measured value of a microstructural property 2 of the metal 1 for the detection of microstructural transformation from the start to the end. The results of the measuring are fed to a controller 4 that provides process control and regulation. The controller 4 has an control portion 4.1 for online control based on a microstructural method model. The controller 4 also has a portion 4.2 for online adaptation of the microstructural model. Actuators 5.1, 5.2 are connected to the controller 4 and controlled by process regulation variables 5 from the controller 4. These variables 5

HM-647

operate the actuators 5.1, 5.2 to control the water cooling zone 6.1 and the air cooling zone 6.2 of a cooling device 6 through which the metal 1 passes.

Please delete the original Abstract and, after the last page of the application, add the Abstract of the Disclosure which is attached hereto on a separate sheet.